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supplies, arms and men that were sent from this country." If it is intended to imply that the United States government has been derelict in its neutrality obligations or that the American people have furnished material aid to the insurgents it is untrue. The only money, supplies, arms or men that have gone from this country have been sent by Cubans residing here, and not that any great benefit has been done by them to the extent. If Spain but knew it, she owes this government and people a debt of gratitude for their nonintervention in Cuba.

ITALY IN AFRICA.

The crushing defeat which has overtaken the Italian forces in Abyssinia has numerous parallels in the history of the colonizing policies of European governments. Governments which are constantly trying to extend their territorial possessions by subjugating weaker nations or savage tribes must expect such reverses occasionally. Italy is not as aggressive in this regard as some other European nations, but she does the best she can. Her colonizing policy in eastern Africa dates from the opening of the Suez canal, some twenty-five years ago, and for some time past she and Great Britain have prosecuted land stealing operations side by side. Of the three divisions into which Abyssinia is divided Great Britain has annexed one, France another, and the third remains to be appropriated. It was in this part of Abyssinia, the southern division, called Shoa, that the recent engagement occurred in which the Shoaese seem to have almost annihilated the Italian forces.

A curious illustration of the complicated relations and everlasting scheming of European powers is furnished by the fact that Russia, the Greek Church and Pope Leo XIII. are all mixed up with Italy in Abyssinian affairs. The Abyssinian Church is a sort of corrupt hybrid of the Greek and Roman Catholic churches. In January, 1895, the czar sent a special commission to Abyssinia for the ostensible purpose of bringing the Russian and Abyssinian churches into friendly relations. Although the ostensible purpose of the mission was religious, its real object, no doubt, was political. It was kindly received by the King of Abyssinia, who wrote an autograph letter to the czar thanking him for sending it, and soliciting his aid against the Italians. It is not known that the cause of church unity was promoted by the Russian mission to Abyssinia, but soon afterward several officers of the Russian army went to Abyssinia and entered the military service there. Not to be outdone in religious zeal or international courtesy, the King of Abyssinia in July last sent a special embassy to St. Petersburg, where it was treated with distinguished honor. By this time the religious zeal of the Russians had become so stimulated that it was proposed to send the Abyssinians a shipload of holy pictures and another mission, headed by a patriarch of the Greek Church. These indications of a growing political understanding between Russia and Abyssinia excited Italy almost to the fighting point, while the religious side of the question attracted the attention of the Pope. Previous to that time the papal representative in Abyssinia had been a Frenchman, but in order to counteract the schemes of the Greek Church the Pope quietly substituted an Italian representative with special instructions as to countering the work against the Russians. At the same time he addressed letters to all Roman Catholic prelates in Abyssinia calling their attention to the fact that the church of Abyssinia was really a schismatic offshoot from the church of Rome, urging them to do all in their power to counteract the efforts that were being made by the Russian Church to lead them astray, and entreating them to devote their energies to bringing the wandering Abyssinians back to the bosom of the Catholic Church, where they really belonged. Thus state and church engaged in scheming and countering for the control of the territory and people of Abyssinia. When the truth comes out about the recent battle it will probably be found that the Shoaese received material aid from Russia in the way of arms and munitions, and as likely as not they were commanded by Russian officers.

For some time past there has been opposition in Italy to the policy of the government in Africa. Last summer, when General Baratieri, Governor of the colony and commander-in-chief of the Italian forces in Abyssinia, arrived in Rome to take a seat in the Chamber of Deputies, he was received with enthusiasm by all the members except the Radicals and Socialists. Now he is held responsible for the recent defeat of the Italian forces, and the dispatches say he will be recalled and court-martialed. It looks now as if Italy would have to pay dearly for whatever territory she may succeed in holding in Abyssinia. The political effect of the disaster in Italy will be to strengthen the Radical and Socialist parties.

SECOND-CLASS POSTAL MATTER.

The Journal has received from a committee of publishers in New York a copy of the Loud postal bill, which affects second-class matter, with a pamphlet containing its objections to the measure. The aim of the bill is to shut out the low rates granted to newspapers and periodicals sent to subscribers, all newspapers and magazines sent as sample copies, and all papers sent to special lists of names for the purpose of advertising. The object of the bill is to prevent the sending through the mails, to be delivered by carriers, tons of papers which are printed and circulated exclusively for the benefit of the publishers. All publications designed to give information of a public character will be sent under the Loud bill, to lists of subscribers who pay for them, as now. On the other hand, all publications which are primarily designed for advertising purposes or are sent free to lists of names furnished to create a circulation must pay third-class rates—that is, at the rate of one cent for four ounces instead of one cent a pound. The distinction which the bill makes between a low newspaper and periodical rate of postage, which will benefit the public and those who are subscribers, and those who use the mails to circulate advertisements for the benefit of a very few is made clear. In the last report of the Postmaster-general attention was called to the abuse of the second-class rate by a class of publishers.

ers and advertisers. To that abuse he attributed a considerable part of the large deficit of the postal department. For advertising purposes only, thousands of tons of papers, periodicals, etc., are carried at a great loss.

It is the purpose of the Loud bill to correct this growing evil. For the public good, newspapers sent to hundreds of thousands of bona fide subscribers may properly be sent at a lower rate than they would be if they were sent to a few individuals at a loss of two or three millions of dollars to the people in the nature of robbery and not a "crime to the body politic," as the authors of the circular denouncing the Loud bill declare.

THE RESULT OF ULTRASM.

Those who undertake to defend the persistence of the political Prohibitionists in maintaining a party organization have been quoting as a precedent the course pursued by the early Abolitionists, who took political action for several years preceding the formation of the Republican party. The point may be well taken; but those who have carefully read the history of that period must have come to the conclusion that the Abolition leaders who denounced the Constitution as "a league with hell and a covenant with the devil" did not strengthen the anti-slavery sentiment, but, by their violence and method of attack, strengthened its power. The leaders were men of courage and ability; some of them were of the stuff of which heroes were made, but they made no real impression upon the people of the North. Their vote was never more than a scattering one. The only effect of their voting was to defeat the election of Henry Clay in 1844 and insure the election of Mr. Polk, who was an ultra proslavery man and pledged to carry out the proslavery war with Mexico. The only result of the appearance of the Prohibition party in a presidential election was to take votes from Mr. Blaine in New York in 1884 and make sure the election of Mr. Cleveland.

As a matter of fact, when the North was aroused to the aggressions of the slave power proclaimed in the repeal of the Missouri compromise, one of the chief obstacles which the Free-soilers and their successors, the Republicans, had to contend with was the prejudice of the masses against the Abolitionists. At the very outset the more prominent of the Abolition leaders opposed the Free Soil and the Republican parties because they would not declare for the abolition of slavery, but insisted on obeying the provisions of the Constitution and demanding that the provisions of the Missouri compromise should be observed. When these were overthrown and it was evident that the slavery oligarchy were determined to make slavery national, the Lincoln, the Searles, the Chases and the Mortons became the leaders of the new party, which maintained that slavery should not be carried into the Territories. During the first term of Abraham Lincoln he was assailed as bitterly by Wendell Phillips as by Vallandigham and Voorhees. John Brown was a man of positive convictions and rare courage, but his performance at Harper's Ferry was so serious a blow to the then rising Republican party that it would have been disastrous had it not emboldened the proslavery leaders to commit outrages which caused his deed to be forgotten. Had the Abolition leaders who denounced the Constitution succeeded, the United States would have been destroyed and slavery would have existed to-day in the South. But all their efforts to destroy slavery by destroying the Union failed, and their war upon the Constitution and the Union for years was a serious obstacle to the development and success of the party which, in the course of events, made liberty national. The ultra Abolitionists strengthened slavery by their methods as the political Prohibitionists have injured temperance and helped the saloon.

THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION.

The semi-official statement as to the views of the President and Cabinet on the Cuban question evidently foreshadows the policy of the executive regarding the recognition of the insurgents as belligerents. This statement is an argument to show that the insurgents are not entitled to such recognition because they have not, in the language of the statement, "a substantial political organization, real, palpable and manifest to the world, having the forms and capable of the ordinary functions of government towards its own people and to other states, having a local habitation and a name, and being recognized by other nations." There is some truth in this, and yet it is also true that in the matter of recognizing belligerent rights precedents are not binding, and each government is entitled to judge for itself when it will do so. Early in our civil war, when France recognized the rebels as belligerents, Secretary of State Seward acknowledged the right to do so in these words: "The President does not deny, on the contrary, he maintains, that every sovereign power decides for itself, on its own responsibility, the question whether or not it will at a given time accord the status of belligerency to the insurgent subjects of another power." Such recognition carries certain responsibilities, but if a government is willing to assume these it has a right to be its own judge as to extending the recognition, and precedents are not binding.

The contention of Spain that the insurrection is a mere riot is absurd. The whole world knows that a state of civil war exists in Cuba, and the existence of civil war for a length of time implies belligerency. The Supreme Court of the United States, in an opinion in a prize case some twenty years ago, said:

"A civil war is never solemnly declared; it becomes such by its accidents, the number, power and organization of the persons who organize it and carry it on. When the party in rebellion occupy and hold in a hostile way a portion of the territory; have cut off their allegiance; have organized armies; have commenced hostilities against the government, and the world acknowledges them as belligerents and the contest a war."

This is a good definition of civil war, and it has not been changed.

There is sufficient ground for recognizing the insurgents as belligerents if

the United States wishes to take that course, but whether, in view of the responsibilities and property rights involved, it would be wise to do so is another question. It is evident the President is opposed to recognition at this time, and that if the resolution of Congress reaches him in its present form he will take no action under it.

The prolonged senatorial deadlock in Kentucky is likely to prove unfortunate for the Republican party and the State at large. Coming into power for the first time after a long period of Democratic misgovernment, a Republican Legislature ought to have devoted itself to correcting abuses and enacting progressive legislation which would have shown the people, by contrast, how far behind the State is and how much in need of reform. Unfortunately, it does not appear that the Legislature is doing anything in this direction. The senatorial deadlock and the partisan and personal controversies growing out of it seem to be absorbing the time and attention of the Legislature to the exclusion of everything else. So far as Republican reform is concerned, the session is likely to prove a loss of opportunity.

It would have been wise if the ex-Confederate who went from Pennsylvania to join the Southern army and who is now a place-holder under Mayor Taggart, had held his peace regarding the affairs of the Grand Army. He was given the position over several Democrats who never fought against their country, and who, if they are not as well qualified to inspect buildings as he, at least possess some knowledge of construction. It is conclusive evidence that the ex-Confederates are not discriminated against in Northern communities when they are permitted to hold desirable public positions without causing opposition.

The United States Senate finds plenty of time to attend to the affairs of other nations, but seems incompetent to deal with our own. Strong as popular feeling is concerning the Armenian outrages and the insurrection in Cuba, the people would be far better pleased if the Senate had legislated to increase the revenues of the government instead of adopting resolutions of sympathy on the other subjects.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

"The Cheerful Idiot," that the Order of the Golden Eagle has been in session for a few days. Funny order, that. Man who sings bass can't join."

"What's the—how?" said the shoe clerk blunder.

"Golden Eagle, you know, is always a tenner."

A Good Law.

Grogan—And what d'ye think as the law has done for me in New York? Well, a saloon cannot be wider than two hundred feet as a church?

Hogan—Sure, an' it is a good thing. Arther the man comes out as the saloon it gives him a two-hundred-foot walk for him to find out to he need another drink before he goes into 't church."

He Forgot Something.

Young Mr. Pitts came in from his daily work and passed his wife, merely a friendly nod. "I think you forgot something," she said, with a pout.

"I believe I did," said he, and then kissed her.

"Really," she said, "I wasn't thinking of that at all. I was thinking of the baking powder you forgot to add to the cake."

If there be any one thing more dear to the heart of woman than another it is her "evens."

She Wondered.

"Ah—um—really, you will have to excuse me," said the young man to whom the young woman was about to sell three tickets for a mush and milk supper. "Have a pressed engagement?" she passed on.

A few instants later and a few doors further on she saw him dive into a "trousers-creased-while-you-wait" establishment.

"A pressing engagement?" she mused. "I wonder," she continued, relapsing from English into chimpfadden, "I wonder if he was joshing me."

MAGAZINE NOTES.

A five-cent juvenile monthly, called Our Boys and Girls, makes its appearance. It is published in Cincinnati.

Miss Anna Farquhar tells in the current number of *McClure's Monthly* what foreigners think of the American girl.

Table Talk is pre-eminently a magazine for housekeepers, all its subjects being treated in the most practical way. One of its most valuable features is a bill of fare for each day of the month, which is capable of being modified to suit different tastes and purses of varying length.

A new and complete novel this month is entitled "A Whim and a Chance." Its author is William T. Nichols. Among other interesting contributions to the number is one by Frances Courtney Baylor on the property of widows, which every man with a wife might read to advantage.

The art of making an entertaining story out of slight incident is well illustrated by H. C. Baure in the March Scribner. Nothing could seem to offer less opportunity for an entertaining, much less dramatic, sketch than a stray boy in a closely settled suburb, yet the writer has vested the tale with a certain interest.

President Andrews, of Brown University, has brought his history of the last quarter of a century in the United States, which has been running in Scribner's Magazine, and a cluster of roses in Holland and a cluster of roses in Holland.

TWO BIG WATCH DOGS

SPEAKER REED PROTECTING THE TREASURY IN THE HOUSE.

And "Boss" Gorman Standing Guard Over Appropriation Bills in the Upper Branch of Congress.

LIVELY FIGHTING PROBABLE WHEN THE NAVAL AND THE HARBOR BILLS ARE UP FOR CONSIDERATION.

Salaries of District Attorneys Fixed—Proceedings of the Senate—Notes on Naval Progress.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—In his efforts to keep down all appropriations, which means that there shall be no money spent for public buildings or rivers and harbors or other improvements, Speaker Reed curiously enough has found an ally in Senator Gorman, of Maryland. Mr. Gorman has announced his intention of fighting all appropriation bills hereafter which do not cut every expenditure down to the utmost. The great fight in the House, which will determine whether the House will rule for a liberal policy or whether Speaker Reed's excessive economy shall prevail, will come over the naval appropriations bill. Mr. Reed wants only four battle ships built, while the House will insist on six. This is, of course, only an apparent difference of views as to the necessity for naval armament, as the majority of the members are in favor of the number of ships built. But it is felt that the issue must be raised some time and fought out and it will be fought out over the number of battle ships. Mr. Gorman has come out on Mr. Reed's side and announces that if the House votes for six ships he will defeat it in the Senate. As Mr. Gorman is a most powerful member of the appropriate committee, and also of the commerce committee, which has charge of the allowances for rivers and harbors, it will be seen that his attitude seriously threatens to undo all that the House may do for generous appropriations for internal improvements.

OHIO CANAL PROJECT.

Report of a Board of Engineers Submitted by Secretary Lamont.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—A plan has been submitted to Congress for a canal connecting Lake Erie with the Ohio river. The Secretary of War to-day sent to the House the report of a board of engineers of the army of a survey of the Miami and Erie canal, the Ohio canal and connections available to make a continuous canal connecting the waters of Lake Erie with the Ohio river through the State of Ohio. The survey was made by a board of engineers of the army of the United States, and the report is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the canal project. The report shows that a canal of seventy feet and deepening it to seven feet. Plans and cost were also required for the construction of locks with a capacity for vessels of at least 200 tons burden. The board also recommended that the canal be constructed in three sections, the first section being from the Lake Erie to the Ohio river, the second section being from the Ohio river to the Miami river, and the third section being from the Miami river to the Ohio river. The total cost of the canal is estimated at \$1,150,000.

DELAWARE ELECTION CASE.

Senator Mitchell Speaks in Favor of Seating Mr. Dupont.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The Senate today began consideration of the Dupont election case, from Delaware. Mr. Mitchell spoke in favor of seating Mr. Dupont, but no action was taken.

The Cuban resolutions were to conference as a result of a report from the committee on foreign relations, and Messrs. Sherman, McPherson and Lodge were named as Senate conferees.

Mr. Fry, from the committee on foreign relations, reported the House (Dingley) bill providing for the extermination of the Alaskan fur seals, which was made a special order for next Thursday.

Mr. Camp introduced a resolution, which was agreed to, asking the Secretary of the Interior for information as to why the Uncompagme Indian reservation had not been opened to settlement, and when this would be done.

Mr. Allen called up his resolution of yesterday, declaring that United States bonds and treasury notes are redeemable in either gold or silver coin. Mr. Allen expressed a desire to speak on the subject, but as he was absent, the resolution was passed over.

The House bill regulating penitentiary cases was passed. It was also passed for the purchase of sites for public buildings at Hastings and Norfolk, Neb.

The House also passed a bill to indemnify the State of Pennsylvania for \$46,000 for militia called out in 1863 for the relief of St. Charles College, Missouri, approving certain acts of the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico authorizing the issue of certain bonds of said territory for a public building at Pecos Falls, Minn., to cost \$75,000; to reorganize the Territory of Alaska, by compensating Elisha Root for assistance to the survey of the coast of Alaska; and to adjourn until to-morrow.

NAVAL PROGRESS.

Notes Issued by Secretary Herbert.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The Intelligence Bureau of the Navy Department has just issued its annual volume of "Notes on the Year's Naval Progress," which has come to be looked forward to with great interest not only by naval officers, but by every person interested in naval development. Owing to one of the restrictions imposed by the last printing act it has not been possible to print more than a thousand copies of this valuable work, notwithstanding the fact that this number is less than the number of naval officers on the active list, who are supposed to be supplied with the work in furtherance of their technical education. So it happens that the department has been obliged to cut off not only the press and foreign legations, heretofore supplied as a courtesy, but also all of the junior officers of the service, the very persons who would be most benefited by the study of the volume. The leading feature of this number is a set of preliminary notes on the Japan-Chinese war, com-

plied by Lieutenants H. M. Witsell and L. Karmay, who were present in Chinese waters during the progress of the late war and thus set out comprehensively the principal events of the conflict from a naval point of view with the view of illustrating the subject and treating it much more liberally, especially in the matter of comment in special issues to appear later on.

A chapter on small arms shows that the European powers have found a caliber as small as .22 entirely feasible for a rifle and in fact are looking forward to still smaller calibers. The British authorities have been making many experiments to determine the penetration of bullets at different distances with a view to ascertaining the best protection to afford troops and the results are all set out in an article contributed by Lieut. R. A. Fluke, the inventor of the Range finder, with many illustrations and measurements and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular type, is thoroughly discussed and illustrated and its merits compared with the present style of tubular boiler. The article is a most interesting one, and is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of the naval power, with descriptions of all sorts of instruments of precision and measurement and convenience. The boiler of the future, that of the tubular